

EPA-PNL-20

"Shoren Brown, Trout
Unlimited" <sbrown@tu.org>
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To Phil North
cc
bcc
Subject Bristol Bay in the News June 19, 2012

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The Bristol Bay Native Corporation kept a tally of attendance and opinion at the EPA's 8 public hearings on the agency's Bristol Bay watershed assessment. BBNC's numbers demonstrate strong support for the report and for action under the Clean Water Act to protect Bristol Bay. In the places where the impacts of a Pebble Mine would be felt most deeply – the rural towns and villages – 1,000 people attended and more than 93% of testimony opposed the Pebble project.

"This overwhelmingly positive turnout shows that the region appreciates and supports EPA's effort and the appropriate urgency with which it is being handled," said Jason Metrokin, president and chief executive officer of BBNC, in the story.

The Columbian newspaper in Vancouver, Wash., printed an editorial opinion, "Jeers: to a proposed mine in Alaska." It highlights the deep economic ties between Bristol Bay and Washington state, as well as Sen. Maria Cantwell's support for protecting the fishery jobs. An excerpt reads: "In 2008, Bristol Bay commercial fishing accounted for \$113 million in economic activity in Washington, not including another \$75 million in activity generated by recreational salmon fishing."

A fisheries professor and a seafood processing manager team up in an opinion piece in Crosscut. Daniel Schindler and Norm Van Vactor give an overview of the historic ties between Bristol Bay and Washington state. Of Bristol Bay, they write: "While paradise

for salmon, this flowing groundwater will likely make containing mining contamination nearly impossible. Based on what we know about the hydrology of Bristol Bay and the process of this type of hard rock mining, it is not a question of if there will be impacts to water quality, but when — and how severe.”

A sport fisherman and a Bristol Bay commercial fisherman from Washington state registered their opinions with letters to the editor in *The Seattle Times*. Fisherman Benjamin Blakey wrote: “We can’t risk jobs, sustainable industries or 40 million sockeye for a mega-mine that will last 25 years or so and produce up to 10 billion tons of toxic waste. Thanks to EPA for getting this right. They should follow up by protecting the bay from massive metal mining by preventing mine waste in the clean waters.”

For more information, visit www.savebristolbay.org

Shoren Brown

Bristol Bay Campaign Director

Tim Bristol

Trout Unlimited Alaska Director

BBNC applauds EPA’s study effort with Bristol Bay watershed

The Cordova Times

Bristol Bay Native Corp. is hailing the public meeting response to the Environmental Protection Agency’s draft Bristol Bay watershed assessment as proof that the majority of participants support the EPA’s work on the assessment...[Click here to read more](#)

Jeers: to a proposed mine in Alaska

In our view: Cheers & Jeers

The Columbian

Jeers: To a proposed mine in a remote area of Alaska that would have direct consequences in our state. The Pebble Mine in the headwaters of Bristol Bay, Alaska, would be a source of gold and other minerals, but the huge mine also would threaten the world's most productive salmon run...[Click here to read more](#)

Alaska’s Pebble Mine will spell trouble for Northwest salmon

Daniel Schindler and Norm Van Vactor

Crosscut

Rainbow trout may be Washington’s official state fish, but it is salmon that occupy the starring role in our aquatic heritage. While decades of misuse and the legacy of dams have contributed to the precipitous decline of many of our local salmon runs, Seattle remains home to a massive fishing fleet that makes an annual pilgrimage to one of the last great areas for wild sockeye salmon: Bristol Bay, Alaska...[Click here to read more](#)

Protect fishery from mining

Dave McCoy

The Seattle Times

I was very happy the EPA decided to hold a Seattle hearing on its watershed report on Bristol Bay, Alaska. ["EPA hears comments on mine-proposal study," NWFriday, June 1]...[Click here to read more](#)

Mine Too Risky

Benjamin Blakey

The Seattle Times

I attended a hearing to gather public comment on the EPA's scientific assessment of Bristol Bay's productive watershed — home to the largest sockeye salmon run on Earth. More than 350 people attended the hearing, demonstrating the close and clear economic ties between Bristol Bay and Washington state...[Click here to read more](#)

Cross-section of fishing, business interests turn out for EPA hearing

Margaret Bauman

The Cordova Times

What the Environmental Protection Agency sought was a critique of its draft Bristol Bay watershed assessment, but most of the folks who waited up to four hours to comment focused directly on the issue of whether to build the Pebble mine or not...[Click here to read more](#)

Save Bristol Bay with Your Fork and Pen July 26

Atlanta Release

The Duluth Weekly

Chef Carvel Grant Gould and Canoe Restaurant will host a four-course sockeye salmon dinner with wine pairings on Thursday, July 26, 2012 at 7 p.m. (\$110.00 per person inclusive of wine pairing, tax and gratuity) in the restaurant as part of a greater awareness campaign to save Bristol Bay, the restaurant's sockeye salmon source, from risk associated by strip mining...[Click here to read more](#)

Pebble debate boils at EPA hearing

Carey Restino

The Dutch Harbor Fisherman and The Bristol Bay Times

If there was any doubt that the proposed Pebble Mine is a passionately divisive issue for Alaskans, a meeting Monday night in Anchorage confirmed it...[Click here to read more](#)

EPA Pebble Mine Review: Dirk Van Zyl and Biogeochemists

Jack Caldwell

I think Mining

I must return to the topic of the Pebble Mine. What is happening there is so extreme and contentious that it is setting the pinnacle (and possible the standard) for debate about opening new mines in sensitive places...[Click here to read more](#)

State Allows industrial-scale exploration without hearings

Kim Williams

Anchorage Daily News

Last month the Environmental Protection Agency released its Draft Assessment of Potential Mining Impacts on Salmon Ecosystems in Bristol Bay. It scheduled eight public hearings and a 60-day comment period so that the public could participate in the preparation of the document...[Click here to read more](#)

We should wait for detailed Pebble plan before judging

Michael Geraghty, Alaska AG

Anchorage Daily News

Recently some pundits and state legislators have taken me and other state officials to task. Our sin? We had the temerity to challenge the EPA's authority to issue an unprecedented and, in our view, premature "Bristol Bay Watershed Assessment" of a hypothetical large-scale mining project in the Bristol Bay area...[Click here to read more](#)

Verdict is in: EPA, White House must stop Pebble Mine

Chris Wood

TU Blog

What do the chairman of the Republican Party in North Carolina; the Republican majority leader of the Alaska State Senate; and the late U.S. Sen. Ted Stevens, a prominent Republican from Alaska, have in common with the editors of Field and Stream magazine and the New York Times? [Click here to read more](#)

More time: Pebble panel's ideas could inform Alaskan's comments

Editorial

Fairbanks Daily News-Miner

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency could help its image in Alaska a bit by agreeing to extend the public comment period on its recently released watershed assessment for the proposed Pebble Mine in Southwest Alaska...[Click here to read more](#)

EPA's Assessment of Proposed Mine Near Alaska's Lake Clark National Park Raises Many Theoretical Concerns

Kurt Repanshek

National Parks Traveler

Miles and miles of lost or blocked streams. Thousands of acres of lost wetlands. Biological shudders through the underlying ecosystem...[Click here to read more](#)

Trout Unlimited | 419 Sixth Street, Suite 200 | Juneau, AK 99801

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